













REPORTS

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OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

AND OF THE

SELECT MEN

Of the town of Merrimack,

1867-1883

For the Year, 1866---7.

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NASHUA:

PRINTED BY GREENE & NOYES.

1867.



## R E P O R T .

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### *Parents and Fellow Citizens :*

In presenting my annual report, I feel, more than ever before, the responsibility resting upon me, and my inability to perform the labors satisfactorily to myself or acceptably to you, and am lead to exclaim in the language of the Poet,

“View me not with a critic’s eye,  
But pass my imperfections by.”

I have endeavored to perform the duties devolving upon me, with an eye single to the best interests of education. How far I have been successful, I leave for you to judge.

While in some schools I am able to report a decided improvement over past years, in others, not so much as could be desired.

Some of our teachers, especially in the summer terms, have been young and inexperienced, consequently not so much improvement was expected.

Our school-houses are not what they ought to be.— While some of them are very fair, others are passable, and still others are totally unfit for school purposes. I would not recommend that new houses be built in these districts at present, but I would recommend a diminution of the number of districts.

I have adverted to this subject so often, without any effect, that I feel that it is almost labor lost to call your attention to it again, but realizing as I do the necessity of it, and the benefits that would be derived from it, I cannot forbear doing so, and urging you to give it your serious and candid consideration.

It will be seen by reference to the statistical table, that in several districts the average number of scholars is less than twelve. Now consider what an amount of money is about the same as wasted in hiring teachers and procuring fuel for these small schools, when the same amount of fuel, and one teacher, would be sufficient for twice or even thrice that number. I hope this subject will be brought before you for your consideration at the coming election.

I have thought best, during the past year, to make a change in the reading books, the old ones having been used a number of years, and I think the benefits resulting from it are already manifest, a decided improvement in reading having been made in most of the schools.

There is one other change necessary, and I should have made that also the past year, had I not feared you might think me too radical upon that subject, and feel that I ought not to subject you to the expense of two changes in one year. I refer to the Arithmetic. We have in one district no less than seven different text books in that branch, and in several, from four to six. I have examined several authors and give my preference to Eaton's Series, and I would recommend to my successor, (if it would not be too arrogant) to make a change in the arithmetic the present year.

More caution should be exercised in the selection of Prudential Committees, and those persons selected who are known to take an *active* interest in the cause of education. Not that there has been any fault to be found the past year in particular, but generally speaking.

It need be no disparagement to one person, that another is more competent to fill that office than he is.—A man may be a very good mechanic, and yet no preacher at all; and who would think of selecting a farmer to superintend a cotton mill? Yet there would be no more inconsistency in this, than selecting a man as agent of a school district, who takes no interest in the affairs of the school, and who is ignorant of the duties pertaining to the office. It is not enough that the agent hires a teacher and pays her off when she

gets through. He should visit the school occasionally and see that the house is kept in proper condition, and look after the affairs of the district generally. Of our twelve agents in town six have not visited the school once during the year. Our schools are languishing for want of proper interest. Too many are looking around and beyond the school-room, seeming to forget that in those rude huts are their greatest earthly treasures.— We are too prone to forget what a stimulus our presence in the school room would create in our children, showing that we are not unmindful of them. The teachers, too, what an incentive to extra efforts on their part, for the advancement of their pupils would an occasional visit from the parents exert.

At the commencement of the schools, I promised to report the names of those scholars, who would refrain from whispering during the year. I fear it did not accomplish what I desired, yet I think it has had an influence in suppressing the habit in a measure. Such names as have been reported by the teachers, will be found in the remarks on individual districts. I will say however that many names were reported in the summer terms that did not "continue to the end," and consequently will not be found among the list.

I received a letter from our School Commissioner, Mr. Mason, saying that he would be in town to visit the schools about the first of December, the week that several of our schools commenced. Having planned to have all the schools, or as many as could do so, meet him at the church, or some other convenient place, that he might see more of them than he could possibly do by going around among two or three in one day, I communicated my plan to him requesting him, if convenient and agreeable, to postpone his visit two or three weeks till our schools got fairly under way. He very willingly acquiesced in my plan, but I regret very much, that sickness and death in his family prevented him from making the contemplated visit, and whether he will visit this town now, or not, I am unable to say.

I would call the attention of our Prudential Committees to one thing, and that is, that they call their school

meetings early in March. Many of our schools commence in April, and where the school meeting is put off till the middle or last of March, it gives the agent no time to procure a teacher till all the best ones are engaged. And I would by all means secure one that has had experience in teaching, if possible, even if I did have to pay a dollar or two more per week; depend upon it, it will be cheaper in the end.

I would also recommend that the several agents confer with the Superintendent, before engaging teachers. I think something like this plan might be adopted successfully. Give notice that the several agents and Superintendent will be in session on a certain day, for the examination of candidates for so many schools. After the examination you can make such selections as you think proper. This would save the Superintendent the very unpleasant necessity sometimes, of rejecting an applicant, and the applicant the very mortifying one of being rejected. I of course wish not to dictate to my successor the course he shall pursue, but simply throw out the suggestion. Such other thoughts as occur will be found in the following report of

### INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS:

#### District No. I.

George C. Ingalls, agent. Amount of school money, \$81.32. Amount to each scholar, \$7.57.

The one term in this district was taught by Miss H. Georgia Gillis, of Hudson. Miss Gillis has had but little experience in teaching, this being her second term, but by her mild yet persistent manner, coupled with her thoroughness of method, she will eventually take a high stand among our teachers. In consequence of the severe snow storm, her school closed a week sooner than was expected, and without an examination, therefore I cannot speak confidently of the progress made, but judging from the appearance of the school when I visited it, and from what I hear, I have no doubt but commendable progress was made. She says in her report: "The effort to dispense with whispering has not been quite successful, though the evil

has been in a measure abolished. The older scholars have not taken that interest in reading, that they should, while the younger ones have taken great interest in that study. Not one of the parents has visited the school during the term. Their occasional presence in the school-room would encourage teacher and scholars, and perhaps awaken a deeper interest in school duties."

### District No. 2.

Andrew Savage, agent. Amount of money, \$73.06. Amount to each scholar, \$6.08.

The summer term was kept by Miss Laura E. French, and the winter term by Miss S. Addie Bryant. The district has been fortunate in the selection of a teacher for both terms. Miss French having taught several terms in town is well known. Miss Bryant came here a stranger. Both were successful and gave good satisfaction. The scholars improved, were well behaved, and everything passed off pleasantly. The gymnastic exercises at the close of the last term were very interesting to witness. The names of those who have not communicated are Celia M. Fifield, Cynthia A. French, Georgia E. Dodge, Hattie F. Otis, Isadore S. French, Sarah J. Crooker, Mary E. Crooker, Francis I. Dodge, Frank W. Crooker, George E. Fifield.

### District No. 3.

Samuel B. Moore, agent. Amount of money, \$186.98. Amount to each scholar, \$5.50.

The summer term was under the instruction of Miss Susie R. Tuten, a teacher of small experience, and though she labored for the improvement of her pupils, her efforts were not crowned with that success that we should be glad to report. The scholars were restless and uneasy, and a great deal of confusion existed.— Nevertheless they made some progress in their studies.

The fall and winter terms were taught by Miss Mary W. Griffin. She also labored hard for the advancement of her scholars, and the examination at the close of the last term showed a decided improvement over the previous one.

There are some very fine scholars in this district and what they need to make them shining lights, is thorough training.

### District No. 4.

James Hale, agent. Amount of money, \$97.93.— Amount to each scholar, \$3.91.

The summer term was taught by Miss Harriet N. Robbins, of Nashua, a veteran teacher, with an experience of eighty-eight months' teaching. Miss Robbins is one of our best teachers, commanding, by her manner, the respect, love and fear of her pupils. The school was orderly, and the examination evinced a thoroughness seldom witnessed in this school. In addition to the summer school, a term of eight weeks was kept by subscription, by the same teacher, and it is to be regretted that she was not secured for the winter term, but the agent, from motives of economy I presume, thought best to employ a young and inexperienced teacher, whom he could hire for a less price, who *kept* four weeks, but finding it harder to manage than was expected, she gave it up, and the term was finished by Miss S. Frances Spalding, who won herself credit for her perseverance, and the advancement that was made, considering the disadvantages under which she labored. Miss Spalding was a member of the school, and it could not be expected that the scholars would have that fear, or hardly the respect they would have for a stranger, and the school was not so orderly as could be desired, nevertheless, the scholars made very fair progress, and the parents feel to be well satisfied with her efforts under the circumstances.

There were several names reported in the summer term as not having whispered, but not being reported the next term, I presume they have "fallen from grace," so I do not report them.

### District No. 5.

Walter Reed, agent. Amount of money, \$63.68.— Amount to each scholar, \$4.54.

There has been but one term this year which was in charge of Miss Mary A. Fields, of this town. Miss

Fields has had considerable experience, and is a faithful and efficient teacher. She succeeded as usual in gaining the good will of her scholars, and a very good degree of improvement was made. This school is small averaging but ten scholars, and I believe five of these came from out of the district. The reading, especially by the first class, was excellent, and a thoroughness was manifest in all the recitations. There were forty-one visits made by citizens and others, which fact speaks well for the interest in this district. I am happy to report the names of Hattie Reed, Ella C. Gould, Hattie C. Humphrey, Lottie E. Truel, Abby L. Truel, Ines E. Dorr, Lizzie L. Reed, and Ellen R. Foot forgot herself and whispered *once*.

### District No. 6.

A. B. Woodward, agent. Amount of money, \$57.54. Amount to each scholar, \$3.03.

The summer term was taught by Miss Emily J. Marshall, who will, with experience, become an efficient teacher. She has a good deal of perseverance, a very essential qualification, and her school appeared well both times I visited it, and the examination gave evidence of improvement.

The winter term was in charge of Miss Addie E. Shedd, of this town. Miss Shedd is one of our working teachers, following it for the love of it, as well as the pecuniary profit. Would that we had more of this kind of teachers.

Owing to the extremely bad state of the roads *before*, and my absence from town *at* the close of school, I visited it but once during the term; but from my knowledge of the teacher, I can confidently report the school as having made good progress, considering the disadvantages under which she labored.

In the first place, the school was but seven weeks in length. Then the traveling prevented the regular attendance of some of the scholars, and the teacher's health compelled her to dismiss the school two weeks right in the middle of the term. This school ranks well with the other schools in town. Frank Fields, Joseph Fos-

ter, and George Foster are reported as not having been absent one half day. Well done, boys; continue to be constant. I learn also that there were exercises in the evening of the close of school, consisting of speaking, singing, &c., which passed off to the entire satisfaction of all.

### District No. 7.

William Moore, agent. Amount of money, \$85.88. Amount to each scholar, \$2.57.

There have been thirteen and one half weeks' schooling the past year with a short vacation between the terms. Miss Laura E. French has had charge of the school. Miss French's reputation as a teacher is too well known to need any commendation from me. Under her instruction, the scholars made good progress in the various studies pursued. I see by the register that eleven were not absent one half day of the first term, and two of the second.

Their names are Sarah L. Moore, Aura F. Shedd, Lucy M. Kinson, Ella A. Shedd, John Humphrey, Alfred H. Kinson, Charles D. Shedd, Willie E. Campbell, and Orson A. Robbins, the first term, and Sarah L. Moore and Estella M. Moore the second term.

This is a step in the right direction. Scholars! you have set a good example. I hope it will be followed by others. Sarah L. Moore, Estella M. Moore and Aura F. Shedd have not whispered.

### District No. 8.

A. McC. Wilkins, Esq., agent. Amount of money, \$81.22. Amount to each scholar, \$6.25.

There has been but one term of eleven weeks the past year, Miss Priscilla E. McKean, of Amherst, teacher. Miss McKean was employed to teach this school last year, which is a sufficient recommendation. This school is small, and with few exceptions rather backward, and these exceptions should have other advantages of acquiring an education than those offered in the district school.

### District No. 9.

Isaiah Herrick, Agent. Amount of money, \$105.84.  
Amount to each scholar, \$3.11

Both terms of this school have been taught very successfully by Miss L. Anna Wilkins. This school is of such a character that it requires the constant attention of the teacher to keep the wheels running. The scholars are mostly young, and some of them are right smart. Some of the parents I should judge take but little interest in the school, as but two are reported as having visited the school in the summer, and four in the winter term.

The school-house too is in a dilapidated state and were the parents obliged to spend much of their time there, I think they would care but little how soon it was demolished. It seems more like a *prison* than a school-room. We have several poor school-houses in town but I think this is the poorest. It has no arrangements for ventilation, no recitation seat, and finally the house is a disgrace to the town and much more to the district.

John Murphy and James Logan, non-communicates.

### District No. 10.

George S. Parkhurst Agent.

Amount of money \$28.64.\* Amount to each scholar, \$1.68.

Both terms of this school were under the instruction of Miss Cretia D. Parkhurst of this town, a teacher of considerable experience, and who labored very successfully for the improvement of the pupils under her care. I visited the school at the commencement and close of the first term. The school was orderly and gave evidence of having made good advancement. I was happy to meet the Superintendent of the Bedford schools, whom I have never had the pleasure of meeting before.

Not getting notice of the commencement of the second term till it had been keeping some time, I did not go in, and being engaged in my school in Nashua at the

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\*From Merrimack. This is a Union district.

close, I was not in during the term, but have no doubt but it was as profitable as the first.

The scholars' who compose this school are mostly from Bedford; a few years ago, it was the reverse, they were mostly from this town. Rose Cada and Mary E. Noyes.

### District No. 11.

Abel G. Blood agent.

Amount of money \$73.89. Am't to each scholar \$5.68.

The first term was kept by Miss Lucelia A. Kimball. This was her first attempt at teaching, and she failed to infuse that life and activity that we like to see in a school. The scholars appeared very orderly and very fair progress was manifest in some of the studies attended to.

The Winter term was taught by Miss Lizzie M. Poole of Hollis, whose efforts for the advancement of her pupils were abundantly successful.

Hattie R. Hardy, and Emma R. Morse.

### District No. 12.

Thomas M. King, agent. Amount of money \$46.40. Amount to each scholar \$2.73.

The summer term was taught by Miss Isabelle E. Styles. The teacher tried to interest the scholars and the examination indicated some improvement in their studies. But she lacked in government, without which the teacher's position is unpleasant, and the school unprofitable. There was some complaint that she abused some of the scholars, but as near as I can judge they deserved all the punishment they received, and perhaps a little more sometimes.

There is an element in this district that disturbs the harmony and success of the school very much. I refer to the practice of the children running to their parents with every little difficulty that arises between each other, the parents taking sides with their children, naturally enough perhaps, magnifying mole-hills into mountains until it results in hostility, if not actual hatred

among families. Now one boy may be an expert with his *tongue*, another with his *fist*, and each should abide the consequences, or not enter the conflict, for one cannot fight a great while alone, it will become monotonous. Now parents, be sure your children are not copartners in the affray, and then if they are wronged or abused, you will have a clear conscience to have the matter looked into.

Children will have their little petty difficulties, but if left to themselves, they are soon forgotten, and in fifteen minutes they are as good friends as ever.

The winter term was taught by Miss Addie E. Shedd, who combines many requisites for a good teacher.—With firmness, perseverance and energy, added to mildness, a love for children and the faculty of adapting herself to their different dispositions, she can scarcely fail of success. The term was short—only six and one-half weeks, but the examination would have been creditable to a term of even twelve weeks. They evidently were taught in a familiar manner, not so much to be able to recite it from the book, as to be able to make a practical application of what they learned. They were made to think for themselves. On the whole I consider this one of the most profitable terms for a long time. Mary A. King, Lizzie M. Cary, Frank I. King and Eddie C. Cary, were not absent during the last term. The first two neither absent, tardy nor dismissed.

I cannot close this report without referring to the discrepancy in the amount of money to each scholar in the various districts. By reference, it will be seen that in No. 1, the average amount to each scholar is \$7.57, and in this district there has been only one term of ten weeks, almost a dollar per week to a scholar. In No. 3, the average amount is only \$5.50, and twenty-nine weeks of school being less than twenty cents per week to a scholar. I admit that the cases alluded to may perhaps be the extremes, but other cases are nearly allied to them. But you ask, how is it to be remedied? I answer, in no other way than by diminishing the number of districts, throwing more money and more scholars into each.

Your attention has frequently been called to the importance of having a Dictionary in every school. At the commencement of the schools, I tried to get the children interested in the matter, and ask their parents for a small contribution each for that object, but I am compelled to report, that not one has been purchased in town.

In retiring from the arduous duties of this office, I wish to tender my sincere thanks for the courtesy with which I have invariably been treated, and may my successor be more worthy of your trust and more competent to perform the duties.

Respectfully submitted,

H. B. SPALDING,  
Supt'g. S. Committee.

Merrimack, March 1, 1867.

### STATISTICAL TABLE.

#### SUMMER TERM.

No. of District.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Whole number of scholars,	*	12	26	25	*	18	33	*	30	14	13	17
Average attendance,		10½	21½	20		11½	29½		24	13	12	15
Wages of Teacher per month, including board,		\$17.80	\$21.	\$23.		\$18.	\$20.		\$18.	\$20.	\$18.	\$20.
Length of school in weeks.		8½	9	10		10	7		8	12	8	11
No. of instances of tardiness.		15	37	15		25	47		102	9	48	72
No. not absent one half day.		1	4	4		3	12		8	2	5	4
No. of visits by citizens and others.		12	15	38		37	21			16	4	12

#### WINTER TERM.

No. of district.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Whole number of scholars.	11	12	34	20	14	19	27	13	34	17	12	17
Average Attendance.	8	10½	24½		10	15	22½	8	30	15	11	13
Wages of Teacher, including board, per month,	\$22.	\$17.80	\$26.	\$23.	\$20.	\$25.	\$20.	\$24.	\$22.	\$20.	\$18.	\$26.
Length of school in weeks.	10	8	12	11	11	7	6½	11	10	9	12	7
No. of instances of tardiness.	81	14	63	11	23	17	48	9	193	14	39	11
No. not absent one half day.		2	1	3	1	3	2		2		3	4
No. of visits by citizens and others.	9	12	38	29	41	18	10	8	3	12	18	40

\*No Summer Term. †Fall Term.

## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

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*To the Citizens of the Town of Merrimack:*

### AMOUNT OF ASSESSMENTS.

State, county, town and school taxes assessed,	\$8272 91
Tax on dogs,	27 00
	————— \$8299 91

### RECEIPTS FROM STATE.

Savings bank tax dividends for 1866,	328 72
Railroad     "     "     "     "	1222 79
State aid for 1866,	186 92
Literary fund tax for 1866,	40 20
United States bounties, final instalment,	440 00
From County,	8 80
Reuben H. Pratt, taxes collected on old list,	5 09
From Jesse Gilman, on settlement of suit,	37 45
Cash balance in favor of alms house,	19 60
	————— \$2289 57
Whole amount received,	————— \$10,589 48

### EXPENDITURES.

Paid, State tax,	3225 00.
"   County tax,	795 82
	————— \$4020 82

### SCHOOLS.

Dist. No. 1, Paid G. C. Ingalls,	81 32
"   2,   "   A. Savage,	73 06
"   3,   "   S. B. Moore,	186 98
"   4,   "   J. Hale,	97 93
"   5,   "   W. Reed,	63 68

Dist. No. 6, Paid A. B. Woodward,	57	54
"    7, " Wm. Moore,	84	88
"    8, " Alex'r McC. Wilkins,	81	22
"    9, " I. Herrick,	105	84
"    10, " G. S. Parkhurst,	28	64
"    11, " A. G. Blood,	73	89
"    12, " T. M. King,	46	40
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		\$981 38

## PAID OLD BILLS OF 1864-5.

Benjamin M. Hill, abatement for 1860,	8	40
S. B. Moore, J. Pierce's tax land for '64,	10	50
Frederick F. Walker, on list for 1865,	125	98
Benj. Ela, to Nashua with dist. records,		
1865,	2	00
Charles W. Dutton, breaking roads, '65,	6	68
G. F. Spalding, labor, stone and plank,		
1861-3-4,	11	50
A. C. Darrah, to Nashua, McAfee case,		
1865,	2	00
Benj. Hartshorn, damage on road in '65,	14	00
John L. Spalding, state aid committee,		
1864-5,	40	00
Ward Parker, state aid committee, 1864-5, 10	50	
Charles H. Longa, superintendent poor		
farm, balance of account, 1865,	235	77
Interest on the same,	8	25
H. E. Abbott, bill against superintendent		
of poor farm, 1865,	190	96
Benjamin Ela, abatement on land,	1	73
		-----
		\$663 27

## ROADS AND BRIDGES.

*Paid:*

S. King, for labor on roads and bridges,	\$11	75
R. Melvin, labor at setting railing,	35	
A. Goodwin, " " "	63	
James S. Longa, labor on road,	1	50
A. McMillen, on bridge near H. Ritterbush's,	75	
S. Kenny, plank Turkey Hill bridge,	3	00
T. T. & A. S. Longa, labor on bridge,	1	75
D. Jones, posts for railing,	1	68
T. T. & A. S. Longa, for poles and posts,	2	94
Peter M. Kersey, putting up railing,	2	68
Ward Parker, labor on roads and bridges,	10	84
L. Fisher, for breaking roads,	8	80

S. C. Anderson, for spikes for railing bridges,	1 53
George C. Ingalls, repairing and breaking roads,	16 20
Israel C. Crooker, plank,	1 94
John McGilverry, labor on roads and bridges,	4 25
Isaiah Herrick, labor on roads and snowing bridge,	5 50
John French, breaking roads,	25 43
E. P. Parkhurst, breaking roads,	9 10
John Kinson, " " " "	5 25
Isaac Fitts, " " " "	34 70
Jacob Hartshorn, " " " "	5 18
Benj. Hartshorn, " " "	10 00
T. T. Longa, " " " "	18 81
Wm. McAfee, " " "	4 20
Chas. W. Patterson, breaking roads in dis- trict No. 12	18 64
A. C. Darrah, erecting railing,	1 75
George F. Hill, repairing roads,	25 35
Wm. U. Gage, for plank,	11 52
Albert A. Junkings, repairing roads,	11 63
Peter M. Kersey, breaking roads	3 22
	—
	\$270 87

## POOR OFF THE FARM.

R. P. Leonard, support of brother,	26 00
John Stone, support of Widow Kittredge,	52 00
John G. Reed, support of Sanderson's family,	3 92
S. Spalding, " " " "	4 88
Dr. Harrison Eaton, County paupers,	6 25
S. C. Anderson, goods for James B. Fields,	18 00
	—
	\$111 05

## ABATEMENTS FOR 1866-7.

James Pierce, on land,	11 31
Daniel T. Ingalls, over assessment on Poll,	4 26
Frederick F. Walker, on list 1866,	81 94
	—
	\$97 51

## INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

N. P. Greene, for stationery,	11 71
" " " printing report 1865,	25 00
G. W. Currier, damage on highway,	75 00
Sawyer & Stevens, advice,	3 00
(Damage) McAfee case as per verdict,	10 00
Costs,	152 88

Military agent, expenses, two journeys to Concord,	6 50
Thomas M. King, for public watering trough, 1866,	3 00
Richard Fretts, damage by Dogs,	4 60
B. Hartshorn, " " "	6 00
H. N. Robbins " " "	4 25
Morrison & Stanley, cost in Gilman case,	37 43
Ward Parker, attendance at court and expenses,	12 00
Simeon Kenney, " " "	14 00
Elijah P. Parkhurst, interest by town order,	34 79
Robert McGaw, " " "	400 00
	—————
	\$800 16

## TOWN OFFICERS.

Ephraim Colburs, town clerk,	15 00
Harrison Eaton, " "	5 00
Samuel C. Anderson, town treasurer,	15 00
Simeon Kenny, selectman and overseer of the poor,	99 50
Ward Parker, " "	63 00
Eri Kittredge, " "	28 00
Frederick F. Walker, collector of taxes,	83 00
Hosea B. Spalding, Superintending school Committee,	65 00
	—————
	\$373 50

## RECAPITULATION.

Total amount assessed,	8299 94
State and county taxes,	4020 82
School tax,	981 38
For roads and bridges,	270 87
Poor off farm including Physician's bill at farm,	111 05
Abatements for 1866-7,	97 51
Incidental expenses,	800 16
Town officers,	373 50
Old bills and abatements,	668 27
	—————
	\$7323 56
Balance in favor of town of	976 35

## FINANCIAL REPORT.

Cash received on loan,	4699 00
" T. T. & A. S. Longa, on notes,	727 26

Cash State Treasurer and other sources,	2289	57
" Town Treasurer,	355	00
		—
		\$8070 83
Cash paid on notes and interest by		
Selectmen,	8020	87
" by State aid committee,	789	50
" by Town Treasurer,	176	80
		—
Total amount paid,		\$8987 17

## TOWN DEBT.

Total amount of notes outstanding and interest on the same to March 1, 1867,	32,709	25
Deduct balance of financial year 1866-7,	976	35
	—	
Amount over assets,		\$31,732 90
Amount of notes and interest on the same, given to those men who put in substitutes, said notes being now under temporary injunction of the court, deducted,	7565	51
	—	
Total indebtedness on demand,		\$24,167 39

## ALMS HOUSE REPORT.

## EXPENSES.

Paid Mrs. Marshall, for 3½ bushels corn,	3	50
"      ½ bush. beans,	1	50
"      3   " potatoes,	2	10
"      56 lbs. flour,	3	92
"      4½ lbs. cod-fish,		31
"      1 lb. tea,	1	40
"      5 lbs. dried apple,	1	00
"      4 gallons. pickles,	1	00
"      10 gallons. vinegar,	4	00
"      21 lbs. lard,	5	88
"      8 fowls,	6	00
Blacksmith shoeing horse,		40
Mr. Merrill, opium,		1 00
H. N. Robbins, grinding,		56
Taylor & Norwell, 1½ yds. gingham,		34
Barr & Co., axe-helve and lash,	2	17
A. B. Dodge, clothing for James Barnes,	6	00

C. H. Nutt, grass-seed,	6 06
Mr. Shattuck, for plaster,	1 80
Shoes for Miss Chandler,	2 75
J. G. Reed, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. snuff,	60
Mr. McQuesten, 1 lb. tea, 3 gals. molasses,	3 10
S. Kenny, 500 feet hay, 3 bush. oats,	18 95
Z. Perry, 4 quarts beans,	40
J. S. F., beef,	3 83
Mr. Laton, for beef,	2 08
For repairing clock,	1 00
C. Converse, doctoring pigs,	30
Z. Perry, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. lard,	3 43
C. Goodwin, 4 days' labor haying,	8 00
Burke & Taylor, fish, turnip seed,	96
Merrill & Barr, meal,	25 00
Mr. Laton, beef,	1 30
For screens .50, groceries .62,	1 12
James Willey, labor six days' haying,	10 50
Daggett & Cross, shoeing horse and rivets,	2 10
Joseph Colburn, groceries,	3 96
Taylor & Norwell, cloth and thread,	1 60
L. Fisher, for runnet,	14
N. & S. Chase, store goods,	21 02
Merrill & Barr, meal,	25 00
Mr. Brown, repairing harness,	1 62
Mr. Shattuck, tea and sugar,	1 30
J. D. Bederick, repairing wagon,	1 80
Mr. Wheeler, two baskets,	1 35
Mr. Barr, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. potash,	1 87
S. Melendy, repairing lead pipe,	3 75
Damon & Weeks, paper and curtains,	1 80
J. Reed, for snuff,	50
D. W. Cada, broom and cheese pan,	1 30
H. Dane, crockery ware,	1 65
Mr. Fowle, labor one day,	1 25
Barr & Co., grass seed,	17 00
Daggett & Cross, shoeing horse,	50
E. Gilmore, mason work,	50
Mr. Colburn, 2 lbs. tobacco,	1 20
A. S. Longa, labor two days,	2 00
E. P. Parkhurst, ten bush. rye,	13 00
F. Herrick, repairing plow,	1 00
S. C. Anderson, store goods,	89 59
W. Parker, 1 calf,	9 00
F. F. Kimball, cotton cloth,	11 63
T. T. Longa, self and oxen,	14 50

G. W. Sawin, blacksmith work,	1 75
Z. Perry, cabbages,	50
C. Nutt, fork hoe,	80
S. Fuller, use of cider-mill,	26
S. Kenny, labor and use of wheels,	1 50
Grinding corn,	27
J. K. Marshall, labor,	52 50
Merrill & Barr, flour and meal,	37 78
Fiske & Libby, shoes,	1 50
J. Reed & Co., snuff,	50
D. & C., 3 gall. molasses,	2 25
F. Kimball, cotton cloth,	1 66
Mr. Goodrich, repairing boiler,	45
F. Nichols, labor,	1 75
D. Swett, use of bull,	1 70
F. Boutell, for meat,	14 66
C. Merrill, opium and medicine,	13 75
G. Stevens, store bill,	85 18
J. F. Osgood, blacksmith work,	6 08
W. Wetherbee, taxes in Amherst,	1 33
L. P. Weston, butchering,	1 50
F. Nichols, " "	60
Wm. U. Gage, sawing lumber,	7 67
S. C. Nesmith, filing saws,	40
N. & S. Chase, store goods,	44 87
Mr. Goodrich, sheet-iron,	2 00
C. H. Nutt, glass and putty,	54
Barr & Co., 20 lbs. potash,	3 00
Levi Fisher, carrying J. Barnes to County farm,	2 00
Mrs. Marshall, for use of cow,	5 00
" " two tin pails,	1 50
F. Boutell, grinding,	35
Thomas Parker, use of harrow,	1 00
I. Parker, labor,	3 25
L. Fuller, two buffalo robes,	6 00
" four meal bags,	1 00
Superintendent's salary,	290 00
Amount of expenditures,	\$961 04

## RECEIPTS.

Rec'd. of T. T. Longa, horse hire,	50
I. Reed, 12 3-16 lbs. of butter,	6 15
Burke & Taylor, 1 bush. cranberries,	3 00
Mr. Greene, 28 lbs. butter,	13 45

Mr. Greene, 6 doz. eggs,	1 50
Mr. Shattuck, 10½ lbs. butter,	4 72
Mr. Laton, 1 calf,	12 00
" 20 lbs. butter,	9 00
Mr. Goodwin, 3½ doz. eggs,	1 68
County, for board and clothes for J. Barnes,	20 79
Individuals for 23 lbs. butter,	9 20
Z. Perry, drawing logs,	75
Individuals, 33½ lbs. butter,	12 73
Mr. Sawyer, 20 lbs. butter,	7 60
Mr. Goodwin, 2 lbs. butter, .75, and milk, 10,	85
Burke & Taylor, 35 lbs. butter,	12 25
Mr. Colburn, 5½ doz. eggs,	1 54
Ward Parker, 2 pigs,	9 00
I. Fills, 1 pig,	4 50
Mr. Cook, 15 lbs. butter,	6 00
Mr. Colburn, 19½ lbs. butter,	8 19
Mr. McKeever, 1 pig,	6 75
Mr. Adams, 3½ doz. eggs,	1 08
" " 2½ bush. apples,	3 12
N. & S. Chase, 6 lbs. butter,	2 52
Mr. Adams, 3 doz. eggs,	84
" " apples,	1 95
Fuller & Robertson, 4 cattle,	257 00
Z. Perry, one shoat,	7 75
Mr. Shattuck, apples,	2 25
R. Howard, 53 bush. apples,	26 50
For apples,	4 50
N. Nichols, 12 lbs. butter,	5 10
T. T. & S. Longa, 34 weeks board,	106 90
" " " for horse hire,	1 00
" " " for two pigs,	9 50
" " " five bushels apples,	5 00
Mr. Nichols, 6 fowls,	3 00
Mr. Perry, 1 pig,	7 75
R. Howard, 20 bush. apples,	9 00
Mr. Page, dinner and baiting,	50
" three bbls. apples,	11 00
Mr. Nichols, 6 fowls,	3 00
" 4 lbs. butter,	1 80
" 2 bbls. apples,	8 00
" 5 bush. potatoes,	3 00
C. Fosdick, 4 barrels apples,	14 00
" 4 do. "	8 00
Mr. Barr, 5 turkeys,	7 05
A. S. Longa, 2 bbls. apples,	8 00

Mr. Fosdick, 42 fowls,	19.74
James Batchelder, 10 bbls. apples,	31.25
Two feather beds,	6.20
J. C. Towns, two turkeys,	3.00
Mr. Nichols, 4 lbs. butter,	1.80
Mr. Perry, 3 lbs. cheese,	1.60
J. C. Towns, one barrel apples,	4.50
Mr. Barr, 20 gals. cider,	4.40
Burke & Taylor, 6 lbs. butter,	2.70
D. Jones, one barrel apples,	4.00
Mr. Boutelle, 95 lbs. turkeys,	15.20
"    4 fowls,	2.00
"    33½ quarts milk,	2.35
Daggett & Cross, 4 doz. eggs,	1.40
Mr. Wiggin, 16¾ quarts milk,	1.00
C. H. Longa, one cow,	36.00
"    interest on the same,	1.24
D. Jones, 3 turkeys,	5.92
Wm. U. Gage, 142 lbs. beef,	17.04
L. Fisher, 123 pounds beef,	15.99
Robertson & Co., 22 pounds chickens,	4.18
D. Parker, cowhide,	5.28
N. & S. Chase, 9 bush. potatoes,	4.50
J. C. Towns, 2 bbls. apples,	9.00
Mr. Nichols, 17½ lbs. butter,	7.35
Mr. Green, 10 bush. potatoes,	5.00
F. Nichols, 2 qts. soap,	1.10
Martha and Florence Rolfe, 28 weeks board,	28.75
A. McC. Wilkins, drawing 16,850 ft. timber,	67.40
S. Kenny, for use of oxen and for labor,	1.50
Amount of receipts,	\$980.64
Amount of expenditures,	961.04
 Cash balance in favor of farm.	\$19.60
 RECEIPTS FOR LABOR FOR TOWN OFF THE FARM.	
For hauling poles and posts and labor on	
road,	13.75
For breaking roads,	11.44
Plank for bridges, the timber for the same	
taken from farm,	31.87
Add cash balance in favor of farm,	19.60
	\$76.66
Deduct physician's bill,	5.50
 Final balance in favor of farm,	\$71.16

## INVOICE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT FARM,

Feb. 16, 1867.

1 Horse,	100 00
1 pair oxen,	200 00
1 pair 4 years old steers,	160 00
4 cows,	200 00
4 yearlings,	60 00
3 shoats,	63 00
25 fowls, 2 turkeys,	21 00
	—
	\$804 00

## HAY AND GRAIN.

9 tons English hay,	243 00
1½ " stock hay,	20 00
Corn fodder and straw,	10 00
40 bushels corn,	54 00
Lot seed "	1 50
18 bush. oats,	11 70
5½ " beans,	16 50
	—
	\$356 70

## PROVISIONS.

2½ bbls. pork,	75 00
216 " ham,	39 00
2-3 bbl. beef,	15 00
50 lbs. fresh beef,	7 00
132 bush. potatoes,	66 00
2½ bbls. apples,	6 00
1½ " cider,	8 00
8 bush. carrots,	4 00
2 " turnips,	50
6 gall. vinegar,	2 40
16 " pickles,	6 40
42 lbs. cheese,	8 40
3½ doz. eggs,	1 00
¾ bbl. flour,	12 00
½ " meal,	2 50
32 lbs. butter,	12 80
36 " lard,	6 40
26 " sasauages,	6 00
2 gall. molasses,	1 50
Lot spices,	1 50
10 lbs. sugar,	1 20
1½ " tea,	1 80
6 " fine salt,	12

2 lbs. saleratus,	24
5 " " suet,	60
66 " dried apple,	11 00
4 " salt fish,	30

## MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

2 bbls. soap,	12 00
31 lbs. tallow and candles,	4 34
$\frac{3}{4}$ quart neat's oil,	32
1 gal. kerosene oil,	75
6 lbs. grease,	50
1 lb. tobacco,	75
	—
Total value of personal property at the alms house, appraised Feb. 16, 1867,	1476 02
The same description of property apprais- ed Feb. 19, 1866,	1379 48
	—
Increase of property since 1866,	96 54

The estimate of Farming Tools and Household Furniture,  
same as last year.

## REMARKS.

The undersigned believe that they have made a correct state-  
ment of the affairs of the town for the past financial year in the  
foregoing report. They would say that they have not been  
able to make so full and clear account of the funds as they  
would wish, owing in part perhaps to their financial qualifica-  
tions.

It will be seen by the above, that the balance in the treasury  
on the financial account is \$976 35 including old bills of  
\$668,27, which if not included, would leave a balance of  
\$1644,62 on the business of the past financial year.

The law suits that were mentioned in the Selectmen's Re-  
port of last year, have been disposed of by trial of the case  
McAfee vs. town, which resulted in a verdict against the town,  
damage ten dollars and costs, (see report.) The other case has  
been settled by advice of the town's counsel. Mr. Gilman paid  
one half of the damage and his own costs. The town is now  
free from the fangs of the law.

The roads and bridges are in about the same state of repair  
as at the last annual report, the superintendent of the town  
farm has been directed to cut and haul some timber to the  
mills suitable for plank to repair the bridges another year if  
wanted for that purpose.

The Overseers of the Poor have secured the services of Mr. Fuller and mother for another year as superintendents of the almshouse at higher wages than last year. We believe that the business of the institution has been conducted in a prudent and economical manner. The inmates appear to be contented and happy. There are five paupers at the farm at the present time. James Barnes, who has been maintained by the town many years, is by the laws now in force, chargeable to the county, and was removed to the county farm in April last; by the above report it will be seen that the farm has become a source of revenue as by the final balance the town treasury has been relieved to the amount of \$71,16.

Mr. Fuller has cleared and sown ten acres of land to rye and grass at the cost of about \$45,00, cash, for seed and labor.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SIMEON KENNY, } Selectmen  
WARD PARKER, } of  
ERI KITTREDGE, } Merrimack.

Merrimack, March 1st, 1867.







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